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did not ask for Kodayar water for starting cultivation. After the cultivation was started, a process of heating would go on for a period, which might be taken to be 30 days in Nanjanad and 20 days in Edanad, the difference being due to the difference in the nature of the soil in the two localities; then what was called *vettivaippu* (transplanting) would be done in Edanad. It was at that stage of the cultivation that water was immediately required in both the localities; and if the monsoon got delayed, as not infrequently happened, and if Kodayar water would not also be allowed then, the crops would all wither away, as they could not stand the sun any longer. About 25 days after starting the cultivation water was therefore required, and, according to the above calculation, that stage would be reached by the 1st Edavam. The date on which the channels were now opened was about the 20th Edavam. The ryots could not possibly adjust their cultivation so as to finish the heating period by the above date; for, in that case, they would have to start cultivation about the 30th Medam, when there would be no rains, and secondly, even if they managed to start it then, it would delay the harvesting and infringe upon the Kanni cultivation to follow.

Mr. V. Krishna Iyer (Member, Trading Classes, Kottar) said that he agreed with the other Members and requested that the 1st Edavam should be fixed as the day on which the Reservoir was to be opened.

Dewan's reply.—I may tell you that the interests of the Government in this matter are not divergent from those of the ryots. But it is the duty of the Government to see that the maximum benefit possible is derived from the Kodayar Reservoir. What the Government are anxious about is that they should so regulate the opening of the channels that, if the south-west monsoon is delayed, say, till the end of June, you must not come to a full stop when you are in the middle of your cultivation and lose your whole crop. The thing is thus purely a question of arithmetical calculation. It is the duty of the Government to look ahead in such matters. If, therefore, you convince me that, in case the channels were opened on the 15th May, there is absolutely no danger of the whole machinery breaking down before the rains come in, then the thing is done. The fact however that the rains may not always come in on the 1st June *has* to be reckoned with and the arrangement to be made should be one that will stand even if there is absolutely no rain till the end of June. It requires practically two months for the Reservoir to fill. I wish it therefore to be clearly understood that this is not a question of your asking and my granting a concession. I have asked the Chief Engineer, Mr. Bastow, to collect statistics as to the quantity of water in the Reservoir at the different periods, and the quantity that would be consumed by irrigation, if there is absolutely no rain till the end of June. When those statistics are ready, we shall have a Conference with the Chief Engineer, the Chief Secretary, the Dewan Peishkars, the Director of Agriculture and the Members of South Travancore, and we shall then discuss the question in greater detail with the necessary data before us.

57. Agricultural requirements of the Shencotta taluk.

Mr. S. Shadaksharasundaram Pillai (Member, Shencotta taluk) said that there was constant failure of crops in the

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Shencotta taluk and that it was not always due to want of rain, but to the want of capacity of the tanks, the dependence of tank and channel-fed lands on wild streams for the supply of water, and the want of one or more reservoirs to supplement the water in the tanks. He suggested that the Tank Restoration Party should be ordered or a special officer appointed to investigate the irrigation sources and find out a big reservoir to supplement the tanks for all the *pakuthies* in common or as many small reservoirs as might be necessary to serve the whole taluk. He mentioned, among the places available for reservoirs, the north-east of Achanputhur in the Atchancoil river, Muriappanchan, Palaruvy and the Thagaravootty valley and its streams. Till the water-supply was ensured, fallow remissions should be freely granted to the ryots.

(2) He next referred to the want of roads for agricultural traffic and suggested that the Government should start the construction of the much-needed roads on recovering *kudipathi* from the ryots or even the whole cost in instalments.

(3) He suggested for Shencotta the introduction of standard measures (including the Madras marakals) and weights now in use in the taluk. Parah and edangali were of no use in the taluk.

(4) Facilities should be afforded for the growth of green manure and fodder in private lands, by offering partial remission of tax wherever they were so grown. Permission should also be granted to cultivate them on Sirkar lands

(5) He said that the term *manipidi* was not properly construed by the local officers and the ryots did not get proper remission of tax in consequence. According to him, only those lands the one-half yield of which minus the seed and cost of harvesting was equal to or more than the tax for the crop, should be declared *manipidi*, and therefore not eligible for remission. Similarly, remission should be allowed on lands whose crops were protected by water from private wells or which were destroyed by wild animals.

(6) Lands should be freely registered for communal purposes in the names of applicants.

(7) An agricultural farm and a manure depot should be established at Shencotta

(8) Agricultural loans for improvement works should be granted to the ryots through the Agricultural Department.

(9) The Land Records Maintenance rules required modification so as to dispense with the necessity for demarcating the sub-numbers and letters in one holding with separate stones.

(10) Rewards should be offered for killing crop-destructive animals.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

58. Agricultural needs of the Changanacherry taluk.

Mr. K. Krishna Pillai (Member, Changanacherry taluk) explained the advantages that would accrue to the agricul-

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